FLEMING (WALTER L.) COLLECTION
Mss. 890, 893
Inventory

Compiled by
Luana Henderson

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

1998
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SUMMARY

Size. 2 linear ft.

Geographic location. Louisiana.

Inclusive dates. 1848-1914.

Bulk dates. 1860-1890.

Languages. English.

Summary. Correspondence, research material, printed items, and photographs of Dr. Walter L. Fleming, professor of history at Louisiana State University.

Access. No restrictions.


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Citation. Walter L. Fleming Collection, Mss. 890, 893, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Stack location. T:64-65
BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Walter Lynwood Fleming was born on April 8, 1874 in Polk County, Alabama to William Leroy Fleming and Mary Love Edwards. He attended Brundidge Academy as a youth and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1896 and a Master of Science in 1897 from the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama; he later received a PhD from Columbia University in 1904.

As a professor of English and history, he served on the faculty of several universities in the South, including Louisiana State University (LSU) from 1907 to 1917. He was a writer and researcher in the field of Reconstruction history. His major works includes *Civil War and Reconstruction in Alabama* and *Documentary History of Reconstruction*; additionally, he wrote numerous articles and book reviews and contributed to dictionaries and encyclopedias. Among his publications is the *History of Louisiana State University (1860-1896)*, published posthumously in 1936.

Walter L. Fleming was married to Mary Wright Boyd, the daughter of Esther Boyd and David French Boyd, former president of LSU. Walter and Mary had three daughters and a son. Fleming suffered a stroke in 1928 and died of pneumonia on August 3, 1932.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of transcriptions of material pertaining primarily to the organization, history, and administration of LSU. Correspondence relating to official university business comprises the bulk of the collection. Some early correspondence reflects political views at the time of the Civil War, and later correspondence of Walter Fleming and Leroy S. Boyd, son of David French Boyd, relates to the history of the LSU. Other material consists of reports, printed items, writings, and research notes. Also included are photographs of early LSU Boards of Supervisors, faculty, and other persons associated with the University.
LIST OF SERIES AND SUBSERIES

Series I. Correspondence, 1848-1914

  Subseries 1. Research correspondence, 1902-1914, undated
  Subseries 2. General correspondence, 1848-1914, undated
  Subseries 3. David F. Boyd, 1859-1890
  Subseries 4. W. T. Sherman, 1859-1870
  Subseries 5. G. Mason Graham, 1855-1885, undated

Series II. Research material, 1909, undated

Series III. Printed items, 1862-1911, undated

Series IV. Photographs, undated
SERIES AND SUB SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series 1. Correspondence, 1848-1914, undated

Subseries 1. Research correspondence, 1902-1914, undated

A large part Walter L. Fleming and Leroy S. Boyd’s correspondence concerns the history of Louisiana Seminary of Learning and Military Academy and Louisiana State University (LSU). Much of the letters received by Leroy Boyd are responses to inquiries for historical information from persons who had previously been associated with the University or their descendents. Some letters include biographical and autobiographical sketches of individuals.

Subseries 2. General correspondence, 1848-1914, undated

General correspondence contains letters to the editor discussing the execution of a fourteen-year-old female slave (December 31, 1858), suspension of cadets from the University (November 24, 1871), and financial hardships of the University.

Also included are letters, arranged alphabetically, composed by early members of the Board of Supervisors, administrators, faculty members, educators, Confederate leaders, and alumni concerning official business of the Seminary and LSU, the Civil War, politics, and letters of reference and introduction. See APPENDIX A for an alphabetical listing of correspondents.

Subseries 3. David F. Boyd, 1859-1890, undated

David French Boyd served as president of the Seminary and LSU from 1865 to 1880 and from 1884 to 1886. Most of his correspondence pertains to the administration and financial situation of the University. Several letters written to W. L. Sanford, vice-president of the Board of Supervisors, concern Boyd’s possible resignation from the University and acceptance of the superintendency of the Government Military College in Egypt (1875-1876), a position offered by General W. T. Sherman. Earlier correspondence includes letters to his wife commenting on the probability of war (1861) and military dispatches (1864-1865). Of particular interest is a letter from David Boyd, while imprisoned in Mississippi, asking General W. T. Sherman to arrange for his transfer to a prison under General Banks, Department of the Gulf, to avoid a transfer to a United States Army prison in the North (February 13, 1864). Another letter (original) speaks of Boyd’s gratitude to Sherman for his intercession in that matter (April 7, 1864).


Correspondence of William Tecumseh Sherman, president of the Louisiana State Seminary
of Learning and Military Academy from 1859 to 1861, discusses discipline of cadets, organization of the Seminary and its affairs, his views on secession and the possibility of impending war, the political atmosphere at the time, and his letter of resignation (March 1, 1860). Much of his correspondence is with G. Mason Graham and David F. Boyd. Other prominent correspondents in this subseries include Braxton Bragg, D. C. Buell, G. T. Beauregard.

**Subseries 5. G. Mason Graham, 1855-1885, undated**

G. Mason Graham served as chairman of the Board of Trustees and vice-president of the Board of Supervisors, and much of his correspondence deals with board appointments, official University business, letters of introduction, and several letters discussing prospective students.

**Series II. Research material, 1860-1909, undated**

Research material includes Walter L Fleming’s research notes for his publication *History of Louisiana State University, 1860-1896*, reports, writings, and miscellaneous items. Reports to the Board of Supervisors detail the general conditions at the Seminary and University, reporting on discipline, faculty, and course study. Writings contain W. C. B. Gillespie’s account of the Red River Expedition, biographical sketch of David F. Boyd, biographical sketch of the artist E. B. D. Fabrino Julio, with a history of his painting *Last Meeting of Lee and Jackson*, and Professor Hutson’s remembrances of early faculty members. Among the miscellaneous items are orders, a proposal for the organization of the Louisiana State Seminary of Learning and Military Academy (May 1863), David Boyd’s military pass (1863), a bibliography compiled by Professor Hutson listing article titles with dates of publication (undated), list of men and their contributions paid toward the purchase of E. B. S. Julio’s painting (September 15, 1871), and a roll of officers and cadets for the 1873-1874 University session.

**Series III. Printed items, 1862-1911, undated**

Printed items are comprised of a galley proof of chapters 1 through 3 of Fleming’s *History of Louisiana State University, 1860-1896*, a brochure for his book, a small print of Julio’s painting *Last Meeting of Lee and Jackson*, a circular announcing a reunion for the class of 1879/1880, listing cadets who were enrolled at that time (1905), and several newspaper clippings related to David F. Boyd and LSU.

**Series IV. Photographs, undated**

Photographs of early members of the LSU Board of Supervisors, administrators, faculty, and other individuals associated with the University; some photographs are identified.
INDEX TERMS

Materials relating to these people, places, and things can be found throughout the entire collection.

Beauregard, G. T. (Gustave Toutant), 1818-1893.
Boyd, David French, 1834-1899.
Boyd, Leroy Stafford, 1873-
Bragg, Braxton, 1817-1876.
Buell, Don Carlos, 1818-1898.
Educators. Louisiana.
Graham, George Mason, 1807-1891.
Julio, E.B.D. Fabrino, Last Meeting of Lee and Jackson.
Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College.
Louisiana State Seminary of Learning.
Red River Expedition, 1864.
Sherman, William T. (William Tecumseh), 1820-1891.
Slavery--Louisiana.
CONTAINER LIST

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|                | 1b  | 4-10   | Subseries 2. General correspondence (1848-1914, undated). |
|                | 2   | 1-10   | Subseries 3. David F. Boyd (1859-1890, undated). |
|                |     | 4-6    | Subseries 5. G. Mason Graham (1855-1885, undated). |
| T:65           | 4   | 1-7    | Series II. Research material  
|                |     |        | Research notes, reports, writings, and miscellaneous material (1860-1890, undated). |
|                | 8-10|        | Series III. Printed items  
|                |     |        | Brochure, galley proof, and newspaper clippings (1862-1911, undated) |
|                | 5   | 1-12   | Series IV. Photographs  
|                |     |        | Photographs (undated) |
APPENDIX A: GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE (ALPHABETICAL LIST)

Allan, John M., 1868, 1 item
Allan, W., 1868, 1 item
Atlett, P. H., 1868, 1 item
Baillio, Gervais, 1862, 1 item
Beauregard, G. T., 1859-1885, 16 items
Beltzhoover, D., 1861, 1 item
Blockstom, L. P., 1860, 1 item
Boggs, W. R., 1863, 1 item
Boyd, D. F., 1 item
Boyd, Thomas D., 1875-1881, 2 items
Bragg, Braxton, 1859-1874, 2 items
Buell, D. C., 1859, 1 item
Burbe, G., 1859, 1 item
Butler, John B., 1861, 1 item
Campbell, Judge J. G., 1860, 1 item
Cannon, Fenelon, 1859, 1 item
Clarke, Powhatan, 1860-1866, 4 items
Cockerille, A., 1867, 1 item
Crutchfield, S., 1859, 1 item
Cunningham, Edward, Jr., 1865-1876, 2 items
Cushman, B. C., 1861, 1 item
Davenny, L., 1860, 1 item
Davis, Jefferson, 1872, 1 item
De Vere, M. Schele, 1890, 1 item
Dupree, J. W., 1882, undated, 1 item
Easton, Annie, 1867, 1 item
Egan, Bartholemew, 1868, 1 item
Egan, W. B., 1861, 2 items
Eliot, Charles W., 1871, 1 item
Featherman, Americus, 1868-1879, 16 items
Ford, W. P., 1859, 1 item
Forman, O. H., 1873, 1 item
Galtifel, E. H., 1859, 1 item
Gibson, R. L., 1884-1886, 2 items
Gilham, William, 1868, 1 item
Gleaves, J. T., Jr., 1859, 1 item
Goodale, W. H., 1877, 1 item
Grimes, T. L., 1877, 1 item
Guyol, S. L., 1874, 1 item
Hancock, Winfield S., 1871, 1 item
Hardee, W. J., 1859, 1 item
Hays, Harry T., 1865-1871, 4 items
Hebert, P. O., 1859, 1 item
Holliday, M. S., 1861, 1 item
Hood, General John, 1872-1873, 2 items
Hopkins, Dr. F. V., 1868-1874, 2 items
Hunt, T. G., 1859, 1 item
Huse, Caleb, 1859, 1 item
Jarreau, B., 1860-1864, 15 items
Johnson, James J., 1868-1869, 2 items
Johnston, J. E., 1863, 1 item
Kelso, H., 1859, 1 item
Lansdell, Thomas, 1865, 1 item
Lay, George W., 1861, 1 item
Lee, S. D., 1885, 1 item
Lewis, Sam N., 1870, 2 items
Lockett, Sam H., 1875-1884, undated, 5 items
Longstreet, James, 1869-1871, 4 items
Lusher, Robert M., 1868-1888, undated, 2 items
Lynch, John, 1872-1873, 2 items
Manning, T. C., 1860-1876, 6 items
Maury, Dabney H., 1867, 2 items
Mayo, R. M., 1859, 1 item
McClellan, George B., 1859, 1 item
McCullock, Richard S., 1884, 4 items
McEnery, S. D., 1885, 3 items
Mitchell, W. G., 1868, 1 item
Moore, John, 1860, 1 item
Moore, Thomas O., 1860-1863, 9 items
Mulcahy, J., 1873, 1 item
Nicholls, Gov. Francis T., 1866, 1 item
Nicholson, James W., 1883, 1 item
Ogden, O. N., 1859, 1 item
Pearce, B. W., 1859, 1 item
Peterkin, I., 1868, 1 item
Prescott, Aaron, 1855, 2 items
Ringgold, J., 1855-1860, 2 items
Robertson, E. W., 1881-1882, 2 items
Robertson, Walter H., 1869, 1 item
Rose, S. W., 1868, 1 item
Sanford, W. L., 1867-1875, 4 items
Sayres, S. C., 1868, 1 item
Sears, C. W., 1859, 1 item
Seay, Wm. A., 1875-1882, 2 items
Seip, Frederic, 1865, 1 item
Semmes, Raphael, 1866-1869, 13 items
Sevier, John W., M. D., 1860, 1 item
Sheridan, P. H., 1868, 1 item
Sherman, John, 1859-1876, 3 items
Slosson, M. H., 1857, 1 item
Smith, 1909, 1 item
Smith, E. Kirby, 1871, 1 item
Smith, Francis H., 1859-1868, 3 items
Smith, Francis W., 1860-1863, undated, 4 items
Smith, S. A., 1861-1871, 3 items
St. Ange, E. Berté, 1867, 1 item
Stockton, J. B., 1873, 1 item
Stone, Chas. P., 1872-1876, 3 items
Strickland, Milton A., 1883, 1 item
Stubbs, Wm. C., 1885, 1 item
Tanner, Peter, 1860, 2 items
Taylor, R., 1868, 1 item
Vallas, Anthony, 1859-1861, 13 items
Van Nostrand, D., 1861, 1 item
Warmoth, H. C., 1869-1871, 3 items
Weymonth, J. W., 1871, 1 item
Wheeler, Joseph, 1866, 1 item
Wickliffe, Robert C., 1859, 3 items
Willbanks, James W., 1859, 3 items
Williams, Ch. B., 1868, 1 item
Williamson, Thomas H., 1859, 3 items
Unnamed: B., J. M. (carpetbagger), 1868, 1 item
Unnamed, 1848, 1 item
Unnamed, 1855-1859, 2 items
Unnamed, 1871, 1 item
Unnamed, 1885, 1 item
Unnamed, 1860, 1 item
Unnamed, 1855, 2 items